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Peace on the earth, good will to men

FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Winnipeg, Man.

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CHRISTMAS EVE - 1949

Prelude:- Christmas Song, by Bowman

Solo:- Silent Night

Processional Hymn:- The First Noel

I

The first Noel the angels did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields
as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their
sheep,
On a cold winter's night, that was so deep,

NOEL, NOEL, NOEL, NOEL,
BORN IS THE KING OF ISRAEL.

II

They looked up and saw a star,
Shining in the East beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.

III

And by the light of that same star
Three wise men came from country afar:
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went.

IV

Then let us all with one accord,
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
That hath made heaven and earth of nought,
And with His Blood mankind hath bought.

Amen.

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Collect for Christmas Eve

\$5-
JA

Junior Choir:-

Bring a Torch

Puer Nobis Nascitur

Introit and Gloria Patri (to be sung)

Solo:- Christmas Lullaby

Epistle, Gradual

Hymn:- Hark the Herald Angels Sing, #25

Gospel, Apostles' Creed

Anthem:- O Holy Night, by Adams

Hymn:- Silent Night, #530

Christmas Message

Christmas Offering

Organ and Violin Interlude

Anthem:- The Christmas Bells, by Lupton

Hymn:- O Little Town of Bethlehem, #31

(Sing verses 1 & 2)

Prayer, Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Recessional Hymn:- Christians Awake, #24

(Sing verses 1, 2 & 3)

Postlude:- Allegro, by Boellman

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A VERY MERRY AND BLESSED CHRISTMAS to all! It is our hope in providing the Service this evening, to lead you to the manger side of Christ the Saviour, that from Him we may receive peace, joy and strength in our hearts.

SOLOISTS THIS EVENING are:- Violin, Helen Olenyk; vocal, Mrs. Midland, Esther Dolgoy and Evelyn Dobruskin. We express heartfelt appreciation to our choirs, soloists, organist and choir directors for their part in making this service beautiful and inspirational.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL Service tomorrow morning at 11 A.M. All come! Communion will be celebrated after close of Service tomorrow. SERVICE New Year's Day, 11 A.M.

Good Will Toward Men

Perhaps there was a time when good will was merely a luxury. It was a comfortable feeling that people had when they sat around a table after a good meal. It was a bit of charity drawn from a full pocket for some fellow in the quaint garb of poverty.

Good will is no longer a luxury. It is the only motive power which can make continued life possible on earth. People have become desperately dependent on one another. Nations are no longer safely separated from each other by mountains, rivers, or seas. Unless we can trust each other in this complicated new world, we shall never know enduring peace. Unless we learn to be generous toward one another, we shall all be in need.

The song of the angels over Bethlehem is no longer a bit of poetry from another world. It has become a simple description of the only way by which our world can avoid wrecking itself.

So this Christmas is a solemn day. It won't do, this year, merely to celebrate a beautiful holiday. We have not forgotten the cauldron of hell-fire through which humanity has recently traveled. The world still bears horrible scars. We should be ready this year to give serious attention to the Christmas message.

Peace on earth. Good will toward men. This is God's Christmas message. We know our need of peace and good will. We must also learn how God proposes to give them to us. They are God's Christmas gift. They come to those who welcome the Babe of Bethlehem. Jesus brings peace—when He is received as our Saviour and Lord. He creates good will in hearts that are open to Him.

To many of us, "accepting Jesus as our Saviour" is just something we talk about in church. It is not something which makes a radical difference in our lives. Until we actually give Him our lives, to make over according to His will, nothing much happens. Things drift from bad to worse. We ought to know *this* Christmas, that we can't afford that.